What is claimed is:

1. An electronic camera, comprising:

at least one optical element disposed in said electronic camera, and

a charge eliminating device for eliminating static electric charges from said optical element.

2. The electronic camera according to claim 1, further comprising:

a manually operable switch, and

a controller for controlling said charge eliminating device to operate in response to operation of said manually operable switch.

3. The electronic camera according to claim 2, wherein

a predetermined operation related to image capture is initiated in response to operation of said manually operable switch.

4. The electronic camera according to claim 3, wherein,

said switch is a shutter release button.

5. The electronic camera according to claim 4, further comprising:

an image-pickup device for converting an object image formed thereon into electrical signals, wherein,

said shutter release button has first and second positions to which it is pushed down, said charge eliminating device operates when said shutter release button is pushed down to said first position, while said image-pickup device operates when said shutter release button is pushed down to said second position.

6. The electronic camera according to claim 1, wherein

said charge eliminating device is an ion generator for ionizing the air inside said electronic camera.

7. The electronic camera according to claim 6, further comprising:

a stirring mechanism for stirring the air inside said electronic camera, wherein

the ionized air is stirred by said stirring mechanism and spreads toward said optical element.

8. The electronic camera according to claim 7, wherein

said electronic camera is a single-lens reflex camera having a quick return mirror, and said stirring mechanism includes said quick return mirror and actuates said quick return mirror for stirring the air inside said electronic

camera.

9. The electronic camera according to claim 7, wherein said ion generator has an opening facing toward said stirring mechanism, and the ionized air diffuses from said opening toward said stirring mechanism.

10. The electronic camera according to claim 6, further comprising:

an image-pickup device for converting an object image formed thereon into electrical signals; and

a mechanical shutter for controlling the exposure time of said image-pickup device, said mechanical shutter disposed between said optical element and said charge eliminating device; wherein

said mechanical shutter opens while said charge eliminating device operates.

11. The electronic camera according to claim 10, further comprising:

a stirring mechanism for stirring the air inside said electronic camera, whereby the ionized air spreads through said mechanical shutter toward said optical element.

12. The electronic camera according to claim 11, wherein

said electronic camera is a single-lens reflex camera having a quick return mirror, and said stirring mechanism includes said quick return mirror and actuates said quick return mirror for stirring the air inside said electronic camera.

13. The electronic camera according to claim 1, wherein said charge eliminating device including a conductive member to ground said optical element.

14 The electronic camera according to claim 13, wherein said charge eliminating device including a brushing device having a conductive and grounded brush, said brush traversing over a surface of said optical element while keeping contact with said optical element.

15. The electronic camera according to claim 14, further comprising:

a manually operable switch, and

a controller for controlling said brushing device to move said brush across the surface of said optical element in response to operation of said manually operable switch.

16. The electronic camera according to claim 15, wherein said brush is located in a position, when said

manually operable switch is not operated, where said brush contacts said optical element and is out of a passage of a light for forming an object image to be taken as a picture.

17. The electronic camera according to claim 1, wherein said optical element is made from ferroelectric material.

18. The electronic camera according to claim 17, wherein said optical element is an optical low-pass filter.

19. The electronic camera according to claim 1, wherein said optical element is an infrared-absorbing filter.

20. The electronic camera according to claim 1, wherein said optical element is an image-pickup device.